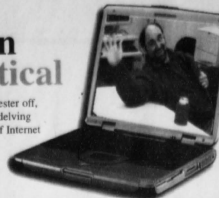


While taking a semester off, Dr. Brad Schariot is delving into the psychology of Internet users.

See page 5



Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Campus Calendar

Military History Film on WWII

The Military History Lecture Series presents the film "The Other Band of Brothers." It is about rape in War World II. The film will be presented by Dr. Robert Lilly, NKU regents professor of sociology. There will be refreshments following the program. It will be held in Landrum room 506 on March 21 at 3 p.m. For more information call (859) 572-5461.

"Noche Latina"

Latino Student Union is presenting Northern Kentucky University's First Annual "Noche Latina." There will be live music, free food and exciting dance performances. Latin Night will be on March 23 in the University Center Ballroom at 8-11 p.m. There is no entrance charge. For more information call Goldie Easton (859) 572-6684.

Softball League

Campus Recreation softball for men, women and Co-Rec leagues are forming. Entry deadline is March 25. The men start playing on March 28. Co-Rec and women's games start April 1. For more information call (859) 572-5197.

Award Banquet

The Women Studies Award Banquet will be on March 27 at 6 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. Tracy Strain, producer, writer and director of "I'll Make Me a World: A Century of African American Arts," the series that won the George Foster Peabody Award recognized "outstanding achievement in broadcasting."

Women's Empowerment

On March 26, guest speaker Nancy Hancock will lead a discussion on how to be heard in the workplace. Bring your own lunch to the luncheon at 11 a.m. in the University Center room 303.

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New policy discourages course shopping

By Scott Wartman
Editor in Chief

In an effort to curb a method of registering for courses known as course shopping, the Board of Regents passed a resolution earlier this month that will charge students \$67 extra per credit hour over 16 hours. The resolution will have no effect next semester.

Course shopping consists of regis-

tering for an overload of courses with the intention of dropping the disagreeable courses within a week, getting a full refund. Northern Kentucky University President James Votruba said this wastes resources of the university, and it prevents students who really want to enroll in a course from signing up.

"We have students saying they can't get into courses, and we see empty seats at the end of the semester," Votruba said.

Critics of the university's plan to use per unit pricing say it does not effectively address the problem since students will still get a full refund if they drop within a week.

Student Government Association President Katie Herschdel opposes the increase saying it punishes students who need to take a heavy course load and may persuade potential students to go elsewhere.

"As we become a more selective university, I am concerned that the per unit pricing will discourage students to come here," Herschdel said.

If the policy were put in effect today, it would affect 1,013 students, 8 percent of the student body.

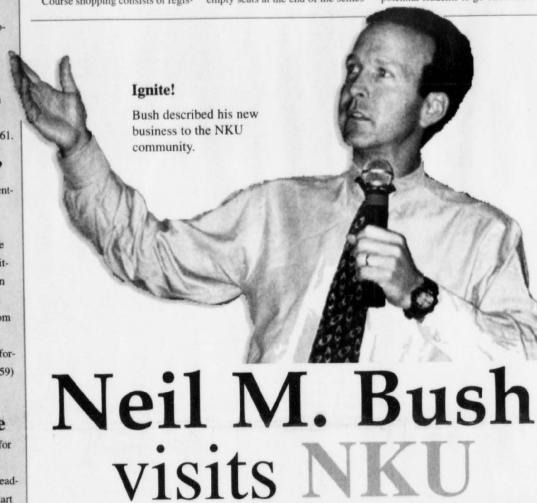
Adriana Hernandez, a sophomore, is one such student affected by per unit pricing and doesn't approve it. She said she is thinking about

changing her major, which will probably force her to take a heavy course load.

"I am already two years into college," Hernandez said. "If I want to get out in a timely fashion, I will have to take over 16 hours."

Some students also feel course shopping is a legitimate way to decide what to take and shouldn't cost extra. Jamie Buckner, a senior

See Course shopping on page 4



Igite!

Bush described his new business to the NKU community.

Neil M. Bush visits NKU

By Scott Wartman
Editor in Chief

A member of one of the most prominent political families in the United States visited Northern Kentucky University on March 5. Neil Bush, brother of President George Bush, discussed a new business venture opening in Covington that could provide opportunities for students. He presented his new company called Igite! Learning which offers online supplements for middle school courses.

The company, based in Austin, Texas, tested its product in schools in 14 schools nationwide, two of which are located in Cincinnati.

By Igite! Learning will open an office in Covington, Ky., which Bush said he hopes to convert into a marketing center for the company. Bush said once the company gets established, he would like to see a partnership established between Igite! and NKU, which would use student interns to help with market research. The company will have a small office in the Madison E-Zone in Covington, which is a company that houses upstart technology businesses.

"If we can collaborate with the college, the students get experience and we get help," Bush said.

Having Bush come to campus was a big boost for NKU, said Dr. Rebecca White, director of the entrepreneurship program, which sponsored the lecture.

"I am excited about him coming on campus," White said. "We want him to see the program and are looking for ways to get him involved in the (entrepreneurship) program."

During his one and a half hour presentation, Bush outlined his company, which he said serves to help kids learn using whatever technique is best suited for them.

Locations

Igite! Learning: The program was tested in 14 schools in eight cities across the country, including two in Cincinnati. It will be available nationwide in the fall.



Each of the test schools this semester received a trial run of the program for the course Early American History. The program consists of multimedia exercises online, which Bush said allows students to use music, movies and text to learn the material.

"Learning isn't about memorizing facts, it is about doing things and taking part," Bush said.

One of the local schools that offered a trial run of the program was Nativity Grade School in Pleasant Ridge, which used the program in its fifth-grade American history course.

Igite! got students interested in history more than a textbook would, said Lori Claire Latcha, a third-grade teacher at Nativity who oversaw the integration of the program.

"They have been relaxed and happy, and they are going to the other screens seeing that the other students are doing," said Latcha. "You don't normally see that in social studies classes."

Students who attended the lecture said it was exciting to see the

president's brother and to hear he is starting a business in Covington. Business Management major Matthew Bolte, who attended the lecture, said he liked Bush's sincerity in wanting to improve education for school children.

"One thing that struck me is that he is passionate," Bolte said. "I heard some people remark they saw tears coming down his eyes. Plus, it is a great opportunity to meet the brother of the president."

Neil Bush is the middle child of six children in the Bush clan. He is 47 years old and raises three children in Houston, Texas. He worked on George W. Bush's failed 1978 congressional campaign and helped out with each of his father's campaigns. Neil Bush came to the nation's attention in the early 1990s for his involvement as director of the failed Silverado Savings and Loan, which cost the federal government \$1 billion to clean-up during the S&L crisis. Regulators never pressed charges, but he paid \$50,000 to settle a lawsuit lodged by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

Higher costs are on the horizon

Tuition increases and pricing policy changes despite student objections

By Susan Bartels
Business Manager

Starting in the fall semester of 2002, students at Northern Kentucky University will not only find changes in how tuition and fees are paid.

At its March meeting, the Board of Regents, in one motion, voted to increase tuition, institute a new policy of combining tuition and fees known as bundling, and change the per credit hour pricing strategy from bundling to unit pricing.

Unanimous approval of the measure was not reached with regent Betty Pogue abstaining her vote and student regent Katie Herschdel, president of the Student Government Association, voting no.

Pogue said she abstained because she disagreed with the unit pricing. She did agree, however with the bundling and tuition increase.

Herschdel said the student government disagreed with all three measures.

University President James C. Votruba said the goals of the new pricing policies are to sustain access and affordability, enhance quality, assure market competitiveness and promote equity in cost sharing.

"There are dimensions of excellence that we have to invest in immediately," stated Votruba. "The need to balance equity and affordability is a challenge and has to be balanced appropriately."

Tuition increases will be seen across the board with resident undergraduates receiving a 9.5 percent increase and nonresidents 3.3 percent. Resident law students will pay 7.3 percent more and nonresident law students will see the largest increase of 20.5 percent.

According to Gerald Hunter, vice president for Enrollment and Financial Planning, the dollar amount of increase for resident and nonresident undergraduates is the same at \$108 per semester (calculated at the full-time rate). The percentage is different based on the increased amount nonresidents pay.

"We don't want to price NKU out of the market," said Hunter.

Herschdel said the student government passed a resolution that they were not in favor of the 9.5 percent increase although they did not give a figure that they thought was more appropriate.

"The main reason for nonsupport of 9.5 was we're excluding access a little too much," said Herschdel.

Differences in opinion also surrounded the change from bundling to unit pricing. With bundling, students paid tuition on 12 credit hours with no additional costs incurred for any hours over that. With unit pricing, they will be required to pay for the first 12 hours and an additional \$67 for each credit hour over 16, the number of hours needed each semester to complete a degree in four years. "Now, everything above 12 hours is free," said Votruba. "We can't afford to give everything above 13 credits away."

Another reason for the change, according to Votruba, was to make tuition costs more equitable between part-time and full-time students. "We were asking students at 12 and below to subsidize students at 13 and above," he said.

"There was great debate within the senate in terms of unit pricing," Herschdel said. Research by the senate showed the change would only affect eight percent of the student population. Among this population, said Herschdel, are those students working towards more than one degree.

Pogue opposed the change saying she thought among the eight percent it affected were the universities most outstanding students. "If the student is good, they should be rewarded," she said.

Curbing course shopping, a practice by students in which they register for many classes initially and then drop certain ones after the first week of classes, was also cited as a reason for instituting per unit pricing.

The student government also opposed bundling. Although the senate did think there were advantages, overall they did not think the pros outweighed the cons.

SORTED BY DOLLAR INCREASE

	\$Increase	%Increase	2002-03	2001-02
WKU	\$138	12.0%	\$1,283	\$1,145
Uof L	\$119	6.3%	\$2,016	\$1,897
EKU	\$111	9.5%	\$1,279	\$1,168
NKU	\$108	9.5%	\$1,248	\$1,140
UK	\$105	6.4%	\$1,740	\$1,635
Murray	\$103	8.8%	\$1,270	\$1,167
Morehead	\$90	8.0%	\$1,213	\$1,123
KSU	\$85	7.5%	\$1,224	\$1,139

Source: Office of Financial Planning

NEWS

Northern Kentucky University

REPORTS



MAR 6 2002-Wednesday-06:30am

Location: NUNN HALL - LOADING DOCK - MEDICAL RESPONSE-Squad Four (4) female subjects overcome by natural gas fumes from a chemical burner inside a lab at the listed location. The victims were all complaining of headaches. The Central Campbell County Fire Department and Squad responded and checked the area. The N.K.U. Environmental Safety Officer also responded to the area. All victims refused medical assistance. The N.K.U. Physical Plant was advised of the problem for necessary repairs. Case closed.

MAR 5 2002-Tuesday-

01:31pm

Location: PARKING LOT T - TOW-NO Tow
As a result of a complaint, Officer responded to the listed location and observed a 1994 Nissan Sentra (Maroon) parked in a crosswalk, blocking a stairwell. Officer determined that the vehicle created a Safety Hazard. A Tow Truck responded and began the towing procedure. Before the Tow, the vehicles owner arrived and paid the towing company's "show-up" fee. The vehicle was then released.

MAR 5 2002-Tuesday-12:56am

Location: U.S. 27 AT I-471 - TRAFFIC Vehicle Stop
Vehicle observed being operated in

a suspicious manner at the listed location. While questioning the driver, the Officer detected the odor of burnt marijuana. Upon investigation, Officer determined that one of the vehicles passengers had marijuana in his coat pocket. The subject was arrested and transported to the Campbell County Jail for Possession of Marijuana. Case closed....

MAR 1 2002-Friday-12:36pm

Location: DORMS/KENTUCKY HALL/LAUREL/B-WING - UNWANTED SUBJECT
Female resident advised that she had engaged in a physical domestic argument with her boyfriend at an earlier date and he was currently at

her apartment. Subject was escorted off campus and told not to return. Case closed....

MAR 6 2002-Wednesday-12:42pm

Location: NATURAL SCIENCE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION SITE - THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING-Over \$300
Construction company employee reported that several pieces of equipment, including a torch, tanks and a cart, were taken from the listed location by unknown subject(s). Under investigation...
MAR 6 2002-Wednesday-10:52am
Location: DORMS/NORSE HALL - POSSIBLE WEAPON FOUND IN ROOM

Residential Life Staff reported finding a weapon during room inspection at the listed location. A container of mace and an antique gun were found inside. Both items are novelty items and not actual weapons. The property was booked in the

MAR 1 2002-Friday-07:06pm

Location: PARKING LOT G - THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING-Under \$300
Male subject reported that his license plate was stolen from his vehicle by an unknown subject(s) while parked at the listed location. Under investigation... evidence room. Case closed....

NKU student dies in car accident

By Scott Wartman
Editor in Chief

A woman who loved children and wanted to devote her life to working with them is how friends and family describe Melissa Ann Spanier.

Spanier, 19, died on Sunday, March 3 when she lost control of her car while merging onto I-75 from State Route 18 and was broad sided by a tractor trailer.

Spanier attended Northern Kentucky University last semester as a freshman in hopes of gaining a degree in education to teach grade school, said her 20-year-old brother Neal Spanier.

"She was your typical teenager," Neal Spanier said.

"She loved kids and loved all her little cousins. She babysat a lot."

Florence police attribute the accident to the condition of road, which had some snow accumulation.

Spanier was pronounced dead on arrival at St. Luke Hospital West.

No other injuries occurred as a result of the accident.

Spanier worked last summer at the Little Red School House in Erlanger and helped with the children.

She had a special talent in interacting with children, said Cathy McFarland, director of Erlanger's Little Red School House.

"She was very understanding and

had a good rapport with the children," McFarland said. "She had a lot of patience and you could tell she enjoyed being with them."

McFarland said Spanier visited about a week before her death to check on the kids and to say hi. News of her death was tough on the staff at the Little Red School House, McFarland said.

"It is sad. She was so young," McFarland said.

Spanier graduated from Lloyds Memorial High School in 2001.

Survivors include her parents Richard and Mary Kay Spanier of Erlanger; brothers Adam Spanier and Neal Spanier, both of Erlanger; grandparents Richard and Patricia Spanier of Crittenden and Ray and Rose Boemker of Erlanger.



Spanier

Correction

In the Tuskegee Airmen story in the Feb. 27 issue of the Northerner, it was incorrectly reported that Lt. Col. Maurice Adams was a flight surgeon with the 47th Medium Bombardment Group. Actually, he trained as a surgical technician at Brooke General in Texas where he had brief encounters with the Tuskegee Airmen. In the mid 1990's he was asked to join the Airmen and served as president of the Cincinnati chapter for two years. He now serves as the chapter's representative on the Board of Directors in Washington D.C.

NKU competes with other area schools in serving the handicapped

By Rick Amburgey
News Editor

One of the least represented minorities at Northern Kentucky University is students with disabilities, with only about 300-350 students currently enrolled.

A possible reason for the low numbers of students with disabilities is the limited services provided by NKU's Office of Disability Services.

Dale Adams, coordinator of Disability Services at NKU, said that NKU has made improvements and is very close to being a "showcase institution" in terms of accessibility. Adams said NKU offers a variety of services to students with disabilities. He said the library has hooked up with a taped textbook program. Also, he said they have the Kurzweil 3000 system, which scans and reads materials and enables students to put it onto disk, CD, or email it to themselves using thirteen different voice patterns.

Adams said NKU's Office of Disability Services offers test proctoring options. He said there are close to 80 students eligible for test proctoring, a service that offers extra time, etc.

Adams said NKU does not hire notetakers like some other schools do because they haven't had the need to.

Instead, they provide students needing notetakers a letter to give instructors asking for someone in the class to volunteer to take notes

for the person.

However, other area schools offer more services to students with disabilities to make their academic pursuits easier.

Wright State University, located in Dayton, Ohio offers one of the most accessible campuses in this area. WSU offers many options for students with wide range of disabilities. Unlike NKU, Wright State employs students to help students with disabilities, which include both academic assistance and personal-care assistance. According to the Web site, these services are provided to help those students with disabilities be as independent as possible. Some duties of the personal-care assistants include tasks like helping with laundry and helping with daily hygiene.

While Wright State does provide personal-assistance services, these services do come at an additional fee. Academic support provided includes, sign language interpreters, lab assistance and reader/writer services. In addition, Wright State's Technology Center provides classroom materials in alternative formats including audio cassettes, computer disks, braille and image enhancement, according to the Web site. Wright State also provides several extra-curricular organizations specifically for students with disabilities.

Adams said to compare NKU's Disability Services to Wright State's would be "like comparing apples and oranges" because Wright State

was built with accessibility in mind. Both schools, however, are about the same age - Wright State being founded in 1967 and NKU being founded in 1968. However, Adams said he believes NKU does take away some of Wright State's potential students because many students from southwestern Ohio choose to come here.

Sarah Kelly, assistant vice president for Student Development for Xavier University, said they provide whatever the individual student needs. According to Xavier's Web site, Xavier offers multiple options to give all students equal access to have an opportunity to learn.

Some of the options they offer students is the ability to take tests in a non-standard atmosphere. Xavier's Learning Assistance Center also works very closely with Disability Services to help with requests for testing accommodations and providing other academic help. Services offered by Xavier include specialized adapted equipment, disability counseling and advocacy, support groups, Peer Advising, trained peer tutors, taped textbooks, sign language interpreters, testing for learning disabilities and exam accommodations.

The University of Cincinnati is similar to Wright State in the sense that they have paid student workers to assist the students with disabilities. Beth Kramer, a tutor at UC, said they do not provide services such as

See Disabled on page 4



Dean Hashimoto, A.B., M.S., M.D., J.D., M.O.H., and now, finally, I.R.A.

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CAMPUS RECREATION Presents...



Softball Leagues Forming

Start Date: Co-Rec/Women - Mon, April 1
Men - Thurs. March 28

ENTRY DEADLINE IS MON, MAR 25

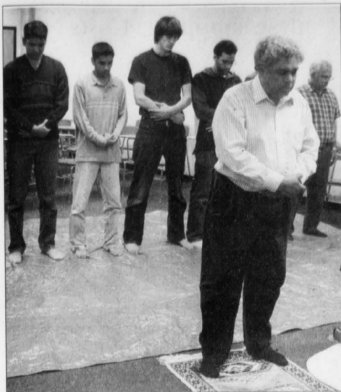
Soccer Leagues Forming

Start Date: Co-Rec/Men/Women - Wed, March 27

ENTRY DEADLINE IS FRI, MAR 22



For additional information about these programs and others call 572-5197



Dr. Hamid Khan leads a weekly Islamic prayer session from last fall in Landrum 403. From left: Umar Khan, Abdul Kazi, Cameron Cochran, Mutaz Awad, Dr. Khalid, Dr. Sadaq Morteza-Hossien

New class offers insight into Islam

By Molly Corfman
Staff Writer

Beginning next semester, a new course, introduction to Islam, will be offered at Northern Kentucky University on a trial basis, according to Dr. Terry Pence, professor and philosophy program coordinator.

"This is the first time we've done introduction to Islam," Pence said. "It was a course we were talking about doing prior to Sept. 11, and it is something that is probably even more important now."

Pence also said that prior to Sept. 11 there has never been much student interest in studying Islam. He said this course will be tried out, and with enough student support, it will be we moved into the regular catalog curriculum.

"If it doesn't go now, it's just never going to go," he said. "But, it should, because it's such an important religion. It's one of the fastest growing religions. And its even fast-growing here, in the United States."

The course will satisfy a general

studies requirement, like the courses survey of Christianity and introduction to Judaism, Pence said. "It's the third of those great monotheistic religions," he said. "It's the second largest world religion. There can be no argument now that it's a world player."

Teaching introduction to Islam will be Dr. William Gartig, an adjunct professor at NKU who is also an ordained minister in the Episcopal church. He earned his Ph.D. in religion from Hebrew Union College studying the Jewish interpretation of the old testaments of the Bible, he said.

Gartig, who taught himself about Islam through reading and self study, has taught the course at the University of Cincinnati evening college and Xavier University. He said it will cover a historical overview of Islam, basic beliefs and practices, the Prophet Mohammed, Islamic mysticism, modern movements and Western domination of the Islamic world.

He said the class will help students to understand Islam and how

Muslims think and feel, what they believe, and how they see the West along with exploring the diversity of Islam.

"There have been misunderstandings and very low opinions of the other side," Gartig said. "Muslims historically have had very low opinions of Christians. And Christians have been taught to have very low opinions of the Prophet Mohammed and of Muslims. We have had 1400 years of a sad history of conflict."

Gartig also said that in the past, Americans have felt Muslim hatred towards them could not hurt them. But, since 9-11, American sentiment has changed, he said.

"Now, we realize that sometimes when people hate you, they will act on it successfully and hurt you," Gartig said. "There is reason for the West to understand why some Muslims hate the West so much."

He said as long as Christians don't understand Muslims, Christians will continue to insult them, and continue to make them angry. He said in order for people to get along, there must be understanding and dialogue.

and his course can help by opening up discussion.

Although the course is not intended for Muslims, they also can benefit from it through learning information they may not have already known, Gartig said. They may learn more about the history and other types of Islam they don't belong to.

But more importantly, dialogue can be practiced in the classroom between Muslim and non Muslim students, Gartig said.

Mutaz Awad, junior information systems major, plans on taking the course. He is a Muslim who moved to the United States from the United Arab Emirates to attend college. His mother is Egyptian and his father is Palestinian. Awad said he's not sure what to expect from the course, but he would like to help. "I want to make sure it's taught right," Awad said. "If they need more information about Islam, the students or the professor himself, I will try to help."

Gartig said people helping others understand their religion will lead to the misunderstandings which lead to conflict.

Bundling raises questions of accountability

Students fear new budgeting method will give them less say

By Susan Bartels
Business Manager

An increase in tuition is not the only change students of Northern Kentucky University will be hit with this fall.

An increase in student fees and a change in the way fees are paid, known as bundling, were also approved by the Board of Regents at its March meeting.

The technology fee was bumped up \$30 per semester along with a 4 percent increase in the athletic enhancement fee. Bundling is a process that lumps tuition and fees together into one figure as simply

tuition.

Although there were no objections to the fee increases, objections were raised to bundling.

"Student government did not support bundling," said Katie Herschede, student government president. Herschede explained that with bundling, it would be more difficult to see how student fees were distributed. She also argued that with fees and tuition separated, any requested increase could be voted on separately.

Gerald Hunter, vice president for Enrollment and Financial Management, said bundling makes NKU consistent in terms of what

they say it costs to attend the university.

"It's almost like people feel like they are nickle and dimed when they're hit with those fees on the side," Hunter said. He added that the move would also help students who are being reimbursed by employers. Now, many employers won't reimburse for the fees.

University President James C. Votruba saw the move as good public policy. "I believe the bottom line is truth in advertising and the ability to tell people what it's going to cost in a much more straight forward way," said Votruba.

He agreed that separating fees makes it easier to maintain accountability. Now, he said, accountability will focus on tuition

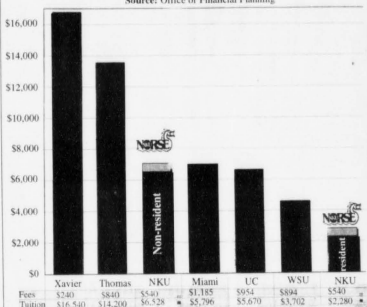
instead of fees. He continued by saying the university's books are open so anyone would be able to see that the money is being distributed correctly.

The biggest challenge with bundling, according to Votruba, was marketing. The first year, he said, would be the most difficult, but other universities were doing the same thing. "We believe we have companies and can meet the marketing challenge," said Votruba.

Herschede said the student government understood there were advantages to bundling, but still felt the cons outweighed the pros.

"Our concern is that student voices could be lost in this process," she said.

2001 - 2002 Undergraduate Tuition and Fees Annualized At Local Universities Source: Office of Financial Planning



JOB EXPO

TUES. APRIL 9, 2002

2:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

REGENTS HALL

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Campus Closeup

Students donate hair to children

For two days last month, the floor of the University Center's lounge was covered in hair donated by students for the production of wigs worn by cancer patients. Sophomore Megan Osborne organized the event because she said she was inspired by a friend whose grandmother had lost her hair through chemotherapy treatments. She said this was when she first heard of a non-profit organization called Locks of Love, which makes wigs from real hair for children who have lost their hair from illness or injury. It takes at least 100 inches of hair to make one wig. The event took place on March 5 and 6, and had stylists from J.C. Penney Hair Salon donate their time and skills. In all, seven students parted with their long mane. Osborne said she was impressed with the success of the event. "There were a lot more walk-ups than I expected," Osborne said. "I was happy with the support this received."

Library stays up two hours later

By popular demand, Steely Library will stay open two hours later Sunday through Thursday. Beginning March 18, its hours will now be 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, while Friday and

Saturday hours will remain the same. This change came after years of requests by students to expand the hours, said Arne Almquist, associate provost for library services. He said it is still unclear whether funding will be available to continue the expanded hours into next fall, and he hopes students use the later hours to help justify the expense.

"The more the facility is used during those times, the easier it will be to get funding," Almquist said.

The library hired one extra staff person and increased the budget by \$2,000 to accommodate the change.

Books soon will be easier to find in Steely library

Steely library is reorganizing all 300,000 plus books in its collection to make them easier to find. Arne Almquist, associate provost for library services, said when the construction of the Faculty Development Center started, and books had to be moved, they realized many were out of sequence. Also, since the shelves stopped at one end of the building and picked up at the opposite end, this made it more confusing. This prompted a complete reordering of books. Almquist said. The shelves will now run horizontally across the room, making them shorter, and the letters in call numbers will be closer together, eliminating the large gaps in the current structure.

To reorganize the large volume of material, the library hired four extra people to assist. The project began in January and is expected to be completed over the summer.

Hunter named to new position

Gerald E. Hunter has been named vice president for Enrollment and Financial Planning at Northern Kentucky University.

Hunter has served as associate vice president for Financial Planning and Institutional Research at NKU since 1999. Prior to that, he was interim budget director and assistant vice president for administration.

In his new role, Hunter will oversee the offices of admissions, registrar, and student financial services.

"This appointment brings together under one vice president the responsibility for both enrollment and financial planning," said NKU President James Votruba. "NKU will help insure that the University's enrollment and financial needs are joined in the institutional planning process."

"NKU is most fortunate to have Gerald Hunter. He brings to his new assignment a comprehensive understanding of the enrollment process along with an administrative style that emphasizes collegiality and collaboration," said Votruba.

"I am very pleased to increase my role in such a growing and well-respected University," Hunter

said. "The challenges that will face NKU during the next few years will by no means be easy, but will be exciting. And I am proud to be a part of that."

Hunter is also a lifetime member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and takes part in many other civic activities.

A native of Cleveland, Hunter began his career at Murray State University, where he earned his Masters of Business

Administration, and worked as both a university budget analyst and as the university budget officer. He has an undergraduate degree in accounting from Knoxville College, and has experience working in the public sector as well. He has been at NKU since 1995.

NKU professor recognized in magazine story

Dr. Ramona Brockett of the political science department, is featured in the January 17 issue of *Black Issues in Higher Education*. The story featuring Dr. Brockett is titled, "Fighting Heard Black Criminologists Seek Proper Context to Explain Racism's Influence on Black Crime" and was written by Paul Ruffins.

Course shopping: Costs NKU

continued from page 1

radio/television major, said he has course shopped before by taking 18 credit hours one semester and dropping one class.

It was effective in determining which classes are good and which are not, while maintaining a full-time schedule, he said.

"You can find out what the professor is like and how hard the class will be," Buckner said.

Votruba defended the policy saying both students who course shop and students who take large class loads put a higher cost on the university which keeps tuition higher for part-time students.

"I understand the value of students who need to take credits," Votruba said. "I don't see any reason why the students at 12 credits or less should subsidize those taking more."

Estimates from the office of financial planning show the amount of revenue generated from the additional per unit pricing will be \$250,000.

Votruba also said that while students will still get a full refund for dropping courses during the first week, the per unit pricing will still hopefully discourage students by reminding them of the added cost of course shopping. Dave Emery, director of the academic advising resource center, said he doesn't

anticipates a decrease in course shopping as a result of the policy. Not all students who course shop take over 16 credit hours, he said, but take 15 hours and drop to 12, which is the minimum number for full-time status.

"I am not sure (per unit pricing) will hit the nail on the head," Emery said. "Course Shopping" probably falls into the 15 to 12 credit hour range."

While he said he does not advise students to course shop, Emery said course shopping does provide security for some students.

"It gives students a safety net," Emery said.

Course shopping, however, causes problems in class, especially in the biology department said Dr. Jerry Warner, chair of the department.

"When a student signs up for a course, we have to buy the supplies and materials," Warner said. "It can be rather expensive."

To avoid such problems, Emery said going over course options and asking questions regarding specific courses with your advisor can be just as effective, if not more effective, than course shopping.

"We want to help students work it out in the advising process," Emery said.

Disabled: NKU stays competitive

continued from page 2

Personal Care Attendants to residential students.

Kramer said some of the academic-based services offered include providing students with tape recorders, calculators, computers, interpreters and extended time on pop quizzes.

Kramer said they have four readers that record textbooks on cassette tapes.

Dennis Chapman, director of

Northern Kentucky Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, said he has seen a proactive movement at NKU in the last few years. Chapman said there are a lot of factors when recommending a certain school to a potential student.

He said, "When you think of accessibility, think outside the box. Don't just think in terms of buildings, think programs too."

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FEATURES

Northern Kentucky University

Laying down the foundation for

Brick Legacies

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Assistant Sports Editor

When a student graduates from Northern Kentucky University, he or she is offered the chance to get a message of their choosing engraved on one of the bricks located in front of W. Frank Steely Library. For \$75, they can have a three line message posted (14 characters each line).

However, students are doing more than just posting a memorable message. When they go through the Buy a Brick program, they are also making a gift to the Annual Fund for Northern.

"You are giving something back and leaving something behind, as you take away memories of NKU," said Marina Harper, Director of Annual and Special Gifts. "75% of the cost of purchasing the brick is the graduating student's first alumni gift to the Annual Fund for Northern."

As part of part of all private support received at NKU, the Annual Fund helps increase the margin of excellence at NKU. According to the mailed-out flier, "Each year gifts

to the Annual Fund for Northern provide vitally needed resources for academic programs, scholarships, campus activities, curriculum development, faculty excellence and technology enhancements."

The Buy a Brick program works in partnership with the newly-structured NKU Give! program. When you make a graduation gift of \$10 you receive an "I GAVE!" pin to wear with your cap and gown at graduation and your name is acknowledged as a donor in the May 11 commencement program book. Two weeks prior to graduation, you receive a "Thank You Gift Pack" that contains NKU mementos (NKU calendar, NKU car decal, opportunity to buy a membership at the Albright health center) and valuable discount coupons from area attractions. For an additional \$15, you can also honor someone special - someone who has made your journey through college possible. This special person is recognized in the commencement program book and will also be notified (by mail) of your gift made "In Honor Of" him/her.

NKU students are actually playing an active role in university life by making gifts for the Annual Fund for Northern. According to Harper, no matter how large or small the gifts are, every one of them counts and helps make a difference.

"We want to cultivate graduates to make their first alumni gift as they finish up with classes at NKU, and also continue to support their alma mater at whatever level that is comfortable for them when they become alumni. Their participation in the Annual Fund (at any level) helps leverage for support from corporations, foundations and state agencies."

Basically, you are helping future NKU students with their college journeys, just like past and current donors to the Annual Fund who helped you during your run through college. Helping others out should give you a positive feeling as you leave this campus, knowing that you made someone else's day a good one.

For more information, please call 422-6503 or e-mail Marina Harper at harperma@nku.edu.



By Brad Bowman
Northern Contributor

Ever heard the tale of Lucifer resigning from hell? Perhaps you know of Morpheus, the god who dreams he was given the key to hell's gates? Or his siblings: Death, Destiny, or Desire?

Creator of the comic series Sandman and author of the international bestseller "American Gods," Neil Gaiman, will be the speaker at the College of Arts and Sciences Lecture Hall, 25 at 7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public with a book signing afterwards.

Gaiman's writing has traversed the boundaries of journalism, comic books, movie and television screenplays. He has also written lyrics for the gothic folk band The Flash Girls. His unique writing style has embellishments of mythology, science fiction, horror, and fantasy. With ease, Gaiman has stepped these ingredients into a recipe of contemporary fables. In his latest novel, "American Gods," there is a struggle between gods who came to America with the early immigrants and the new figurheads who are berthed from an era of media, technology, and consumerism. Commenting on

Best-selling author will visit campus

PREVIEW

his new novel Gaiman states, "Much of 'American Gods' was an attempt to try and make sense of the culture and history of America as an immigrant (Gaiman, an Englishman, now lives in the states). I was puzzled by where the history had gone, where the Greekness of the Greeks, where the Irishness of the Irish, and trying to figure out what America had had to give in order to become America, and what it had gained."

"American Gods" takes readers on a journey through America to lesser known road side jewels and spectacles. The House on the Rock in Spring Green, Wisconsin which has the World's Largest Carousel, Cairo, Illinois on the southern tip of the state which locals pronounce "Kay-ro." The estimated center of the states in the beginning of the Twentieth Century, Lebanon, Kansas.

Gaiman continues about the novel, "I do think that there's a lot of strange wonderfulness in America, but that's seldom where people are looking for it. And there's a lot of fascinating history in America, and it's strange that they don't teach it."

Gaiman said one of the aims of

the novel is to give a different perspective on America

"I wanted also to try and give Americans a view of America as a magical place, seen from an outsider's perspective," Gaiman said. "I don't think America is without culture. I do believe it tends to deal in grand simplicities."

When asked whether he thought America's culture was diluted in this modern day, Gaiman

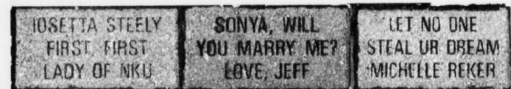
states, "As I said, you do have culture. You also have the most unexamined lives and world I've ever encountered. It would be hard to get an accurate reflection of what life is like in contemporary America from... say TV or movies or most newspapers."

Professor Andy Miller of the literature and language department, also one of the coordinators of the event, said he hopes by bringing Neil Gaiman to NKU, it will bring interest and appeal to those both of the university and the public.

Miller said Gaiman is unique because of the variety of his writing.

"He is a cross-over writer. He has written fantasy, short-fiction, journalism, and poetry," Miller said. "He has entered the mainstream with his new book which reached the best-seller list this past summer. He is interdisciplinary and he is successful."

See Gaiman next page



Brad Sharlott: On sabbatical and busy at work

By Joe Glasier
Northern Contributor

Ever wonder what teachers do while on sabbatical? This semester, one Northern Kentucky University professor will be studying how students use the Internet to find love.

Professor Brad Sharlott of the Communications Department will soon be distributing surveys in most Speech 101 classes. These surveys, once completed, will provide the information for the first phase of his study.

The survey will actually explore how students use the Internet for all social purposes. This includes the use of online classified ads, e-mail, chat rooms, as well as pornographic Web sites and online dating services.

The survey will then ask questions assessing psychological aspects such as

shyness and introversion. Sharlott hopes to examine the role of anonymity and an increased sense of safety when using the Internet in comparison to actual social interaction. It will also ask demographic information such as age, sex and class standing which can later be examined in comparison to the other responses.

"I was interested in psychology in school," Sharlott said. "My interest in the Internet has grown with the Internet itself."

Sharlott plans to use the survey (which will be distributed to a couple of hundred students) to identify "heavy users" of the Internet. These "heavy users" will be identified, in part, by their use of the Internet between 20 and 30 hours per week.

The second phase of the study will involve in-depth interviews with these students discussing what they get out of being online. The interviews will explore whether or not students use the Internet as

a substitute for actual, interpersonal relationships or in order to fill existing deficits in their social lives. They will also explore whether students are better or worse off as the result of this heavy use, examining things such as effects on relationships and schoolwork.

"This is a hot area of research," Sharlott said. "Assuming I find interesting results, I shouldn't have any trouble getting published."

Sharlott already had a similar study published in 1995, in *Computers In Human Behavior*, a psychology journal. In 1989 he began collecting data on online dating services, focusing on who used them and why. Sharlott then looked more closely at the role shyness played in the use of these services, as well as at the role of gender and appearance.

The project was a byproduct of his "tooling" around on the Internet in the 1980s and wondering about its social implications. The role of shyness as a

variable was a personal interest.

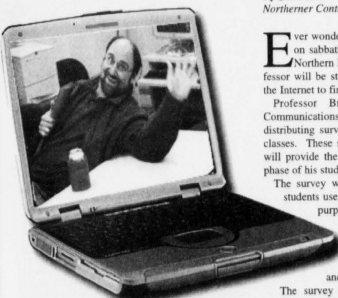
"I am a shy person," Sharlott said, "and therefore found research into shyness to be particularly relevant to my own life."

The study found that shy people used online dating services more often to find love, whereas those less shy used the services to make friends or simply to browse. The study found that while men usually made the first move, a quarter of the women in the survey were willing to make the first contact. According to Sharlott, "these women did it a lot."

He suggests that the Internet gave these women the security to break free of traditional gender-based roles, whereas in a bar, the person may not have been as bold. Or, Sharlott added, he may just be behind the times.

The major difference in the study this semester is that it will expand to cover all social interests on the Internet, and it will

See Internet next page



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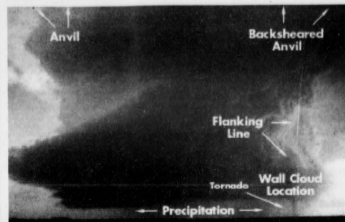
THURSDAY

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
LIVE LOCAL BANDS



Twister Terror

Photos Contributed
Deadly Clouds: Tornadoes are a vortex of air rising in a cloud. Scientists don't exactly know why the vortex is formed, but it is believed to be caused by a strong updraft of warm air, causing winds of up to 300 miles per hour.



State prepares for tornado season

By Scott Wartman
Editor in Chief

As tornado season drifts closer, sirens all over the state of Kentucky will go off at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 26. The upcoming months of April, June and July traditionally see the most tornado activity.

While NKU isn't participating in any evacuation procedures during the drill, Ken Knipper, Campbell County director of emergency management, said drills like the one on March 26 accomplish a heightened awareness of the dangers posed by violent weather.

"Kentucky is very prone to these things," Knipper said. "To have something like a statewide drill will put us into alertness."

The campus is pretty safe if a tor-

nado should touch down on the plaza, said Jeff Baker, director of environmental safety. Baker said NKU's concrete structure offers protection from tornado damage.

"It is definitely a plus," Baker said. "We could withstand just about anything that could come through here."

While the structure is fortified, tornadoes can be unpredictable, Baker warned, and the University has safety precautions in place in the event of a twister.

The department of Public Safety monitors local weather conditions and is responsible for alerting the University of an approaching tornado. According to the NKU's emergency response manual, telephone calls to key University personnel advising them of the situation will be made, and students are advised to seek shelter in the basement, stair-

wells and interior corridors of buildings. The key is to shield yourself as much as possible, said National Weather Service forecaster John Center.

"You want to put as many walls between you and the wind as possible," Center said.

To better prepare Campbell County for the arrival of a tornado, the Campbell County Emergency Management Division has installed 11 new tornado alarms that will hopefully be online by the end of the year, Knipper said.

The campus has 2 of the county's 19 alarms that are activated in the event of an emergency. One is at Albright Health Center and another is on John's Hill Road. In addition to more alarms, Knipper said CCEMD is educating the public on how to ensure their safety in a tornado, including com-

pling a safety kit with bandages, tape to close off windows and doors, water and food.

"When these storms hit, they do wide spread damage," Knipper said. "They affect a lot of people quickly and people have to take care of themselves, possibly for as long as three days."

We want them to have the supplies to help deal with the situation. It doesn't take much." The last tornado to hit Campbell County wrecked Newport on March 1986 causing \$18 million damage in Boone, Campbell, and Kenton counties.

Even though a tornado hasn't hit close to NKU in 16 years, Center said that doesn't mean the Northern Kentucky area is resistant to tornadoes.

"There is no place that can't be touched by a tornado," Center said.

Quick Tips

When severe weather approaches:

- Move to the lowest floor level
- Find the center-most room
- Stay away from outside windows
- Prepare for power failure
- If you're caught in the open and you cannot seek shelter from lightning, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet—place your hands over your ears and your head between your knees. Do not lie down! Make yourself the smallest target possible.
- In flash floods, never attempt to cross flooded roadways. Most deaths from flooding are caused when vehicles are washed away by raging flood waters. Source: Kentucky Division of Emergency Management



Stacey Sutton/The Northern
Alarm: A tornado siren sits silently atop Albright Health Center

Gaiman: Author searches for lost American gods

continued from page 5

ful." Gaiman's popular DC Vertigo series, Sandman, earned him twelve Eisner Comic Industry Awards and a World Fantasy Award.

"This being monumental as being the first comic book ever to receive a literary award. From 1987 to 1996, Sandman, spun around subjects of folklore with mythological characters in the "dreaming" and modern day settings.

Why he writes of mythology as is mysterious as the myths themselves, Gaiman said.

"I wish I knew. Might as well as ask Steve King why he writes horror, or Agatha Christie why her mind shaped detective stories. I've always loved myths, and always felt that it was profoundly relevant, and profoundly interesting. Sometimes I find myself wanting to share something cool,

"I do think that there's a lot of strange wonderfulness in America, but that it's seldom where people are looking for it."

-Neil Gaiman

and sometimes I want to describe why I think something is interesting," Gaiman said. "I love mythologies. I love old gods and forgotten gods. Probably because I'm me. If I were someone else I'd be more interested in murder mysteries."

Sandman was a popular breakthrough for Neil Gaiman. He has since written and contributed on many other works: "Neverwhere" (a BBC TV series), "Smoke and Mirrors," "Short Fictions and Illusions," "The Dream Hunters," and a children's story "The Day I Swapped My Dad for Two Goldfish."

He recently finished the audio recording of his book "Coraline" (released in hardback in July) and wrote the "Delirium Story" for Bill Sienkiewicz's "Endless Nights."

Gaiman is also on the Board of Comic Book Legal Defense Fund that protects the rights of comic book creators, publishers and retailers.

Gaiman did a reading tour known as the Guardian Angel Tour. The revenue raised from this tour during 1993 to 2000 was given to the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund. Gaiman is an avid supporter of this movement which has deemed him a defender of artist's rights.

One fan has named him, "the perfect marriage of the intellectual and the aesthete." Gaiman is known for being a great speaker and maintains an intense personal rapport with his audience."



Photo Contributed
A cold lake awaits: TKE members will dive in this lake today to fight Alzheimer's.

TKEs take a dive into Lake Inferior

By Barbara Brown
Northern Contributor

Lake Inferior sits tranquil under an open sky, as wildlife serenely nestle along its banks, occasionally taking a dip in its muddy waters. Its murky depths are undisturbed by the outside world as a light breeze gently ripples across the lake, rippling the water.

It will remain peaceful until noon on March 20, when the men of Tau Kappa Epsilon will jump into the murky waters to benefit the Alzheimer's Association.

The idea stems from Alzheimer's sufferer and former President Ronald Reagan who is an alumnus of the fraternity (not the NKU chapter).

Adam Seibert, president of TKE, said it took a long time to finalize the plans. "We had to go through a lot of red tape to get this to work," Seibert said. This included provid-

ing insurance in case someone gets hurt and having a life squad and lifeguards standing by. It took nearly a year to work out all the details, Seibert said. The fraternity had planned to do the plunge last month but had to postpone due to legalities of this project.

The plunge had originally been planned to take place in the swimming pool on campus but the men decided to do something different by diving into the lake. They plan to take the plunge rain or shine. "As long as there isn't any lightning, we'll go in the rain," said Seibert.

For every \$10 donation they receive, one member of TKE will plunge into the lake. The event also will include a "surprise guest." They hope to raise \$1,000 for the Alzheimer's Association. A collection booth will be set up in the University Center for donations. They will accept donations in any denomination.

Internet: Scharlott studies what people view on the Web

continued from page 5

be a more widely distributed survey. The survey for his first study was a posted survey, voluntarily answered. This semester's survey will be more random, in that sense.

Scharlott has some hypotheses going into the study. He believes shy people will be heavier Internet users, in general, and that they may use the Internet to overcome the barriers of face-to-face communication. On the Internet, he pointed out, a person has more time to give responses, and they can't be seen. This may help shy people avoid feeling judged and clammuping.

Scharlott feels his research could be beneficial. The study, he said, may be a help to therapeutic psychologists and mental health professionals who could begin using the Internet to help patients with severe social anxiety overcome their problems. NKU may also consider sponsoring Internet-related activities such as chat rooms for the benefit of students who are too shy to participate in regular campus activities, he added.

The survey should be ready within a week to two weeks and the data collection should be com-

pletely finished within two months. Scharlott hopes to have two articles written up by fall, possibly one for each phase of the study. He will probably submit his articles to *Computers in Human Behavior*, or a similar journal.

This is Scharlott's first sabbatical. Sabbatical comes from the same root as the word sabbath, meaning the seventh day or a day of rest. Sabbaticals are taken a maximum of once every seven years, as a break away from teaching. Scharlott has taught at NKU since 1991, and also between the years of 1982-1986.

Despite being on sabbatical, Scharlott has been on campus a lot lately. When asked whether this was because he loved NKU so much or because no one else could do his job, he responded, "Maybe all of the above, or maybe I just have to get out of the house when the cleaning lady comes."

All kidding aside, he admits it is hard to resist going into the lab and fixing problems when he is on campus, and that he should probably stay away from NKU so he can get his research done.

VIEWPOINTS

Northern Kentucky University

Letters to the Editor

Plagiarism: "American as dutch apple pie"

I am writing in response to the Northern article concerning new attempts to punish Plagiarism. I feel that this is totally unnecessary, and further, Plagiarism has been given a very bad rep. Plagiarism is a right of passage for young Americans in this country. Everything in our culture, from our language to our cuisine has been plagiarized in various bits and pieces from other countries. Plagiarism is as American as Dutch apple pie. We stole Mexican food and renamed it "Tex-Mex". One can't even speak a sentence in American English without inadvertently using words stolen from two or three other languages. Furthermore, young plagiarists

aren't doing a disservice to writers, they are actually doing them a favor by protecting their right to privacy! Just because some author publishes, to put food on the table, doesn't mean he/she wants her name plastered all over works cited pages across the country, plagiarists are heroes, and we should give them the respect they deserve. Plagiarize Proudly!

(no part of this article may be reprinted without permission by the author) (author accepts no responsibility for suspensions, expulsions or failing grades)

John Eumendies
Senior, Psychology

Letter wrongly printed

This letter is in reference to Scott Warman's decision to print and respond to Rick McCulley's attack of the Northern's credibility and journalistic integrity. As a spokesman for Get Some Film Production LTD., it should be noted that Mr. McCulley had no intention of his letter being printed. Rather, it was meant only to be read and digested by Mr. Warman, whom he shared a working past with. Complicated the letter anyway, and took the liberty of tacking on credentials after Rick's name, which is a serious editorial faux pas, especially when it is in error; Rick is not a

co-founder of Get Some Film, nor has he ever claimed to be. Secondly, even a casual inspection of Rick's letter shows that there is no mention of his feelings of Holly Hayden's film review. I have personally corresponded with Holly of this matter and have assured her that we appreciate her interest in what we're doing. We are responsible enough as a company to take criticism without contempt, and a letter written by Rick McCulley

With much sincerity,
Dave Cartledge, publicist,
www.getsomefilm.com

Students misuse recycling bins on campus

As you walk through halls, you may see many "brown" boxes and yellow plastic lake cans stationed near the walls. I wonder how many of students observed those for "Recycle." If you look carefully, it indicates "Paper only please." I think this is a good idea for school reuse those papers to save a little money and provides more "free" papers for students. Therefore, I gather unnecessary sheets from my house and bring them to school to support even though it is really tiny.

However, sometimes I observed that some student throw a garbage

into the brown box or yellow can even though a trash can placed very closed. Can't be or she read English? Well, as a foreign student, I read "Papers only please" very clearly.

I know it is possible that someone could have confused because he/she had to hurry to move to the next classroom so that didn't have a time to look at carefully.

Just remember that recycle boxes and trash cans have approximately the same color as brown, but they must use in different way. If school concern about change the color of

the recycle boxes, it would be more useful. Do not just throw garbage into the box without any sense please. Let's conduct our behavior as a college student.

Consequently, I would like to insist that students' responsibility always comes first to make the better school because we are the main body of the school. Try to help school to save more papers, and school will get more free papers for us. No doubt.

Jin Kim
Sophomore

Do you think it's okay to course shop? Why?

Tricia Record
Junior, Biology

Yes. It gives you a chance to figure out which classes you're going to succeed in and you also get a chance to figure out which professors are better.



Nick Haigs
Sophomore, Biology

Yes. It gives you an option if something comes up in the class you can't deal with you can drop it and still be a full time student.



Lisa Turnbow
Freshman, Business management

I think it's ok depending on what the student's doing, but if they don't have other obligations, they should focus on their classes.



Cheryl Thomas
Senior, Social Work

Yes, it's their right. If that's how they choose to book classes, then they have it. If there's no penalty, then why would they not do it.



Brian Robertson
Theater professor

Yes. Students should definitely have a chance to sample classes and not necessarily commit to them.



Fred James
Sophomore, Secondary Education

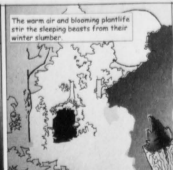
I don't think it's wrong. If you happen not to like the teacher, you are stuck with that teacher for the rest of the semester. If we pay for an education, we should pick out teachers.



Concrete Jungle



As the cold winter storm drew to an end, spring brings forth new life and a new year.



The warm air and blooming storm from the south brings forth new life and a new year.



The gentle storm of rain from the west brings forth new life and a new year.



by mike meiners

War on terrorism misguided

By Christopher M. Loomis
Harvard Crimson (Harvard U.)

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — The Bush administration's ever-expanding war on terrorism has become alarmingly misguided in both intent and implementation, putting American lives at risk without striking at the root cause of terrorism — the powerlessness of destitution of billions of people around the world.

Bush's expansion of American

military commitments abroad in recent weeks has scattered poorly supported contingents of U.S. troops in areas of questionable need, minimizing the opportunities for real success in counter-terrorism operations. The operation in Yemen best demonstrates the latter point. In a war-torn country where, less than two years ago, terrorists bombed the U.S.S. Cole, Bush has authorized the deployment of a scant 100 troops. What is more, this contingent will not be deployed as a single

unit, but in groups of 20 to 30, rendering them effectively dependent on a weak Yemeni government for security.

American military deployments in the Philippines have created the exact opposite situation, with hundreds of U.S. troops and millions of dollars being poured into the hunt for a small band of nominally Islamic bandits. While these rebels — known as the Abu Sayyaf — need to be eliminated, the regional nature of the Abu Sayyaf's activities

calls into question the need for such vast expenditures. Beyond the utility and risk involved in the administration's military policy, numerous deployments needlessly stifle the United States' reputation abroad. Despite the small size and limited goals of American military operations, the image of American troops spreading out across the globe conveys to the international community an image that both disturbs our allies and incites our enemies, all for marginal gains.

Major choices, choices for life

By Jody Berg
The Exponent (U. Wisconsin-Platteville)

(U-WIRE) PLATTEVILLE, Wis. — When I first began college, I hadn't decided my major. I always loved English, but I did not think that could be a career because the only job I knew that English majors could have was teaching and I did not want to teach.

In my first two years of school, I went through about a million different ideas, ranging from social work and psychology to criminal justice,

eventually landing on an English education major after listening to advice from an English professor. I loved all of my English classes and got excited about teaching literature and writing to students.

I have recently decided, however, that I cannot teach. I am not ready to do this type of work. I dropped the education part of my major and am now majoring in English and I am going to pick up a journalism minor.

While talking to my roommate's sister Sunday night, the topic of education was briefly brought up. I told her I didn't know what I was going

to do with my English major, but that I love it. I love to read and write. So, even though I don't know what my career is going to be when I graduate, I am going to be doing something I love which is more than I can say about many people in the working world.

College students often come to college to get a better job than their parents. They do not care what they decide to major in, as long as it will make them a lot of money. This attitude defeats the entire purpose of college. College is a place to come and learn. It is a place to find out

what you love and make a life doing it. The result of majoring in an area that you do not love is a job that you do not love. Imagine waking up and going to a job that you dread every day of the rest of your life.

If you are not happy with what you are doing in college, think about the consequences for your life. Will your attitude toward your choice of career magically change once you have a diploma in hand? You cannot force yourself into liking something. Major in what you love and you will more than likely end up in a job that you love.

Contact The Northerner
northerner@nku.edu
All editorials must include a name, major/position and class standing (if a student).

Finding the humor in life

By Jolene Craner
Daily Evergreen (Washington State U.)

(U-WIRE) PULLMAN, Wash. — I could tell you that life with a disability isn't so bad.

I could tell you that only society's perceptions of my having a disability make me sad.

But then — I'd be lying. Sometimes the pain in my legs and arms is so intense that my only thought is of finding my comfy warm bed, taking two large tranquilizers and passing the year away.

Yep — that's right, some days my Supergirl persona just doesn't want to fly, and all I am is a 22-year-old geriatric in training.

And then I'm depressed, sad,

tired, sitting pitifully in my wheelchair waiting to be taken home to crawl into that comfy bed and cry.

I've got the "Why me?" down to a science better than Nancy Kerrigan ever will.

It's tough to be stuck in the chair, it's tough to need a wheelchair, especially when that wheelchair only turns left.

That's right, earlier this week I was treated to a wheelchair that only turned left, on top of intense pressure in my knees and winding up having to walk everywhere because what was supposed to be help me walk — could only go left.

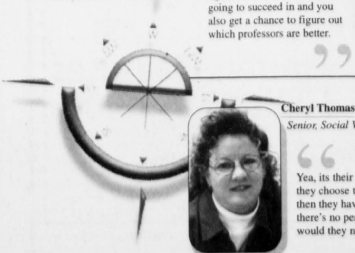
Now truthfully, it really was funny to be using a wheelchair that only turned left, went straight and went backwards.

It made me think that you know, pain does suck, it really does, but if it's pain from laughing at the sheer stupidity of a broken chair — it doesn't hurt so bad.

It made me see that something's are worth cherishing, like humor, so that when life hurts so bad, find something funny to think about, like a wheelchair that only goes one way, or that there are professors silly enough to assign homework due the Friday before Spring Break.

So as all us interred students count down the days toward vacation, think about something funny and remember, school isn't that bad because when it comes down to it, school is better than a world that only allows left turns.

North Poll



Tricia Record
Junior, Biology

Yes. It gives you a chance to figure out which classes you're going to succeed in and you also get a chance to figure out which professors are better.

Nick Haigs
Sophomore, Biology

Yes. It gives you an option if something comes up in the class you can't deal with you can drop it and still be a full time student.

Lisa Turnbow
Freshman, Business management

I think it's ok depending on what the student's doing, but if they don't have other obligations, they should focus on their classes.

Cheryl Thomas
Senior, Social Work

Yes, it's their right. If that's how they choose to book classes, then they have it. If there's no penalty, then why would they not do it.

Brian Robertson
Theater professor

Yes. Students should definitely have a chance to sample classes and not necessarily commit to them.

Fred James
Sophomore, Secondary Education

I don't think it's wrong. If you happen not to like the teacher, you are stuck with that teacher for the rest of the semester. If we pay for an education, we should pick out teachers.

SPORTS

Northern Kentucky University

Lady Norse reach Elite Eight in tourney

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Assistant Sports Editor

The Northern Kentucky University women's basketball team is going back to a familiar place, the NCAA Division II Elite Eight. However, unlike the past, the Norse has had to go through a tougher path to get back there.

Especially after losing to the University of Southern Indiana by 10 points in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament championship, the cards didn't seem to be in NKU's favor. Despite the defeat, the Norse proved strong by winning three games in three days to capture the Great Lakes Regional title in Evansville, Indiana. NKU is now moving on to the Elite Eight for the third time in the past four seasons.

"It was remarkable and unbelievable. It was a miraculous performance," NKU head coach Nancy Winstel said. "All of the credit goes to the kids, everyone of them."

The Norse, who were the No. 3 seed in the region, capped off the three-day performance on March 9 by upsetting No. 1 seed Southern Indiana 69-66 on their PAC Arena homecourt.

NKU senior Michelle Cottrell again showed why she is the leader on the team, scoring a game-high 31 points, 23 of them coming in the second half. Another senior, Suzie Smith, also played a major role in the victory. She scored 12 points in the victory, including a big three-pointer late in the game.

"(Dana) Schubeler's presence was big help to us. All three of our

seniors stepped up big," Winstel said.

Winstel went on to say that even junior Amy Mobley showed her competitiveness on the court, scoring seven points and dishing out six assists in the game.

"Her passing ability against the press was phenomenal. She passed it to the right people at the right time. That made a huge difference."

The Norse had lost their previous two games this season against the Lady Eagles on their homecourt, but NKU found a way to win in probably their most important game of the year.

Southern Indiana trailed by six points with less than three minutes left in the game but made a late run to cut the deficit to two. "We mis-

played hit a big three. We were surprised," Winstel said. Cottrell saved her team's season by hitting a key free throw with 13 seconds left. Erin Wall (12 points) of the Lady Eagles eventually missed a three-pointer at the buzzer as the Norse prevailed.

"You don't beat someone by ten without a fight at the end. It was a great game," Winstel said. "We hung on at the end and didn't let it slip away. That was huge."

But before getting to the regional championship game, NKU had to play two other games to get to that point. The Norse first played the No. 6 seed Northern Michigan and won easily by a score of 73-60.

NKU then faced No. 2 Lake Superior State in the semifinals, a team they had never defeated in the NCAA Tournament. The Norse led

by 11 points at halftime and never really looked back. The Lakers did cut the lead to four with three minutes left the game but that was as close as they would get. NKU went on to win the game 71-62 to advance to the Great Lakes Regional championship.

"We struggled defensively, and it wasn't our greatest performance," Winstel said. "We hung on and found a way to win."

Cottrell and Smith again led the team in the victory, scoring 21 and 16 points respectively. Also, Norse junior Kristin Polosky scored 12 points and junior Bridget Flanagan finished with 11 points in the game, including three 3-pointers in the second half.

"Polosky, Cottrell and Smith played great. Flanagan hit some key

three-point shots. Everyone stepped up the whole weekend," Winstel said.

NKU will await its next challenger as the team heads out to Rochester, Minnesota to play in the Elite Eight. The Norse (26-6) will play South Dakota State (27-8) on March 20 at 7 p.m.

"They score a lot of points. They put on a lot of pressure and shoot a lot of 3s," Winstel said. "They are a fairly young team and are in a very, very tough region."

If NKU wins that game, it will advance to the Final Four on March 21. The NCAA Division II national championship game is slated for March 23.

The man behind the gun

By Stuart MacKenzie
Northerner Contributor

Two years ago, any student attending Northern Kentucky University couldn't just participate in the Olympic sport known as skeet and trap, until Chester Kiser came along. Kiser, a transfer student from the University of Kentucky, single-handedly organized, arranged and helped fund the NKU skeet and trap team.

Kiser said the idea behind the skeet and trap team is to combine his love of the outdoors with school sport of skeet and trap. But what is skeet and trap? According to Kiser, "It's the shooting of clay pigeons, which are clay saucers with shot-guns. They travel approximately 60 mph as we shoot them."

The team now consists of 35 members who practice Wednesdays and Sundays at the Lloyd Area Shooting Range in Crittenden. Kiser said they usually complete in five meets a year.

When Kiser transferred from UK to NKU, he said he realized there was no skeet and trap and decided to organize a team. One of the most daunting tasks of organizing the teams was getting funding, he said. "Other schools like Purdue have their teams paid for by the school, and we do not. I knew if we were going to have a successful



Range: Kiser poses with one of his guns. The team is up to me to get funding," Kiser said.

The team received a grant for \$4,000 from the NRA, which has been renewed every year of the team's existence. Kiser spends a lot of time running the team by scheduling meets and managing finances. Kiser's leadership also carries onto the field. "I normally place in the top five shooters in the meets, and I am one of the top five in our shooters region made of Purdue, University of Kentucky, Indiana University, Southwest

Missouri State, West Point and University of Illinois," Kiser said. True to his word, at the most recent meet held two weeks ago at Purdue, Kiser took second place.

To understand how Kiser became so dedicated to this cause you need to understand the man, and his beginnings. From a very young age Kiser was fascinated with the outdoors. "I started hunting when I was four, hunting squirrel, and I killed a squirrel when I was 5. I got my first gun when I was 3," Kiser said. This avid love for the outdoors and hunting has stayed with Kiser. "I spend most of most of my time shooting skeet and trap, hunting, fishing, trapping, anything outside and I'm happy," Kiser said.

Every summer Kiser has traveled all over our nation's wilderness. "I have been to every state west of the Mississippi except Hawaii. I've been going west ever since I was 5 for family trips. I've visited almost every national park. Out there I hunt, fish, four-wheel and camp in the great outdoors."

For the future, Kiser talked about his training regimen. "As far as training for the Olympics go, the only way to get better is to shoot more," Kiser said. "The more you shoot in competition, the more you get used to handling your nerves, getting under fire."



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Elite Eight Shakedown

Wednesday, March 20
NCAA Division II Elite Eight

Mayo Civic Center/Taylor Arena (5,300), Rochester, Minn.
Cal Poly Pomona (25-4) vs. Mars Hill (26-4), 2 p.m.
American International (28-3) vs. Glenville State (28-3), 4 p.m.
NKU (26-6) vs. South Dakota State (27-8), 7 p.m.
Florida Tech (27-5) vs. Southeastern Oklahoma (25-6), 9 p.m.

Thursday, March 21
NCAA Division II national semifinals

Cal Poly Pomona/Mars Hill winner vs. American International/Glenville State winner, 7 p.m.
NKU/South Dakota State winner vs. Florida Tech/Southeastern Oklahoma winner, 9 p.m.

Saturday, March 23
NCAA Division II national championship game, 8 p.m.



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Northern Kentucky University

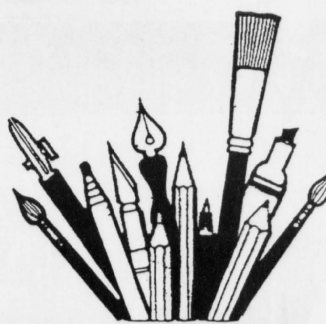
A new lake



These two ducks find an alternative to Lake Inferior in the puddles caused by construction outside the University Center

WNTV CHANNEL 15 Program listings


Wednesday March 20	13	9:00pm-11:30pm
1:30am-3:30am Blue Chips PG-13	Thursday March 21	Girl Interrupted R
3:30am-6:00am Erin Brockovich R	1:30am-3:00am Bubble Boy PG	11:30pm-2:00am G.I. Jane R
6:00am-8:00am Hoosiers PG	3:00am-5:30am Captain Corellis Mandolin R	Friday March 22
8:00am-12:00pm Informative NR	5:30am-8:00am Robin Hood And The Prince Of Thieves PG-13	2:00am-4:30am Cider House Rules R
12:00pm-2:00pm Buty Bear	8:00am-12:00pm Informative NR	4:30am-7:00am Erin Brockovich R
2:00pm-4:00pm WNTV original programming	12:00pm-2:00pm WNTV Original programming	7:00am-9:30am Girl Interrupted R
4:00pm-5:30pm Bubble Boy PG	2:00pm-4:00pm Zilo	9:30am-12:00pm Informative NR
5:30pm-8:00pm Captain Corellis Mandolin R	4:00pm-6:30pm Cider House Rules PG-13	12:00-2:00pm Buty Bear
8:00pm-11:00pm Godfather III R	6:30pm-9:00pm Erin Brockovich R	Say Tuned For a Kevin Smith Weekend!
11:00pm-1:30am Robin Hood And The Prince Of Thieves PG-13		For more information contact WNTV at wntv@nku.edu.



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LIGHTER SIDE

Northern Kentucky University

Joey Ramone says goodbye with final solo album

By Ryan Garrett
Northern Contributor

Ten months after his death on Easter Sunday of 2001, Joey Ramone said farewell to the world in their form of his first and last solo album, *Don't Worry About Me*, released Feb. 19 on Sanctuary Records.

The disc starts off with one of two covers on the album: a punked-up version of the Louis Armstrong classic "What a Wonderful World." Rather than merely paying homage to the song, Joey's uses his unique

voice and a spirited delivery to make it all his own. With much of the album's 11 tracks featuring producer Daniel Rey (Ramones, Misfits) on guitar, Dictator Andy Shernoff on bass, and Marky Ramone on drums, Joey expands on the punk-rock sound he helped to pioneer in the now legendary Ramones.

"Venting" spews out the social commentary that the Ramones avoided for most of their career. "Reality today's much stranger than fiction," Joey sings in his Anglo-Queens accent. "A sick world with a violent affliction," he laments of

the dog-eat-dog mentality that dominates our age.

Not all the tracks are as pessimistic, though. There are still the elements that made the Ramones so fun. "Maria Bartiromo" is an ode to the fashionable CNBC stock market analyst. "Mr. Punchy and 'Spirit in My House' are totally irreverent in the way that many of the Ramones classics were. The best tracks on the CD, however, are not the songs

in which Joey reminds us why the Ramones were Gods or the new renditions of a few classics.

Instead, many of the album's most touching songs can be found scattered throughout the last half of the disc, in which Joey brings the listener into his battle with cancer. "Searching for Something" tells the story of Joey's quest for inner peace in the face of death. "We went on up to South Fallsburg for

some spiritual comforting," he sings in the chorus. "I felt like a million dollars; something that money just can't bring."

The title track, which closes the album, says more than could ever be said by an album review just through its title. Though Joey had yet to complete the album at the time of his death, the 11 tracks that make up *Don't Worry About Me* offer a fitting and much needed closure to the career of a legend.



The late Joey Ramone

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